GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4406
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
SAARC Agreement
Charitra Shri Ram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether disallowing the motor vehicles agreement of SAARC by Bhutan was a set back for India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India hopes that the Government of Bhutan will be able to complete necessary internal procedures for operationalisation of the agreement at an early date; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (d) The SAARC Motor Vehicles Agreement (MVA) is pending finalization as Pakistan"s response on the same is still awaited. Bhutan has not raised any objections to signing of the SAARC MVA.

The BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement was signed by representatives of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal on 15 June 2015 in Thimphu, Bhutan. Subsequently, it has been ratified by Bangladesh, India and Nepal. The National Assembly (Lower House) of Bhutan had endorsed the BBIN MVA in May 2016, and forwarded it to the National Council (Upper House) of Bhutan for consideration. It is our hope that the Royal Government of Bhutan will be able to complete necessary internal procedures for operationalization of the Agreement at an early date.